

NRC NEWS

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, REGION II

61 Forsyth Street SW, Atlanta GA 30303 Web Site: www.nrc.gov/OPA

No. II-03-038 July 22, 2003

CONTACT: Ken Clark (404)562-4416/e-mail: kmc2@nrc.gov

Roger D. Hannah (404)562-4417/e-mail: rdh1@nrc.gov

NRC TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETING AT GLOBAL NUCLEAR FUEL - AMERICAS JULY 31 TO DISCUSS PLANT'S REGULATORY SAFETY PERFORMANCE

Nuclear Regulatory Commission officials will hold a public meeting on Thursday, July 31 in Wilmington, North Carolina, to discuss the agency's latest review of safety performance at the Global Nuclear Fuel-Americas plant.

The Licensee Performance Review, which covers regulatory safety compliance at the plant for a period from May 13, 2001 through May 17, 2003, indicates that the facility continues to operate safely and adequately protects special nuclear material against theft and diversion.

Performance at the facility was evaluated by the NRC staff in five main areas: Safety Operations, Safeguards, Radiological Controls, Facility Support and Special Topics. NRC officials said, based upon the review and the plant's demonstrated performance, the agency will maintain its basic level of inspection. The agency will perform additional security inspections due to changes in physical protection requirements.

The meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m. at the plant site at 3901 Castle Hayne Road. The meeting will be between company officials and the NRC, but members of the public and the press are welcome to attend for purposes of observation. NRC officials will be available prior to the meeting's close to answer questions from interested observers.

Interested persons may obtain a copy of the NRC's letter concerning the review from the NRC Office of Public Affairs at the email and/or street address listed at the top of this announcement or by accessing the NRC web site at $\frac{\text{http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html}}{\text{http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html}}.$